

**Karuk Tribe – Health Board Meeting
October 10, 2024 – Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 10am by Vice-Chairman Brink.

Present:

Kenneth “Binx” Brink, Vice-Chairman
Scott Quinn, Secretary/Treasurer
Arch Super, Member at Large
Jennifer Goodwin, Member at Large
Arron “Troy” Hockaday, Member at Large
Kristen King, Member at Large
Eli Hensher-Aubrey, Member at Large

Absent:

Russell “Buster” Attebery, Chairman

Arch provided a prayer for the audience and Vice-Chairman Brink read the Mission Statement.

Agenda:

Scott Quinn moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve the agenda with changes, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Consent Calendar:

Arch asked about canceling an agreement to use a different agreement. 24-C-121 needs to be rescinded and approve agreement 25-A-001.

Arch Super moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve two items on the consent calendar and vote later on the third, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Minutes of September 12, 2024:

Arch Super moved and Kristen King seconded to approve the meeting minutes, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Guests:

1) Eric Cutright, IT Director:

Eric is present to update that there is the opportunity to seek funding for 5g cell service. Eric and James will work on comments to the FCC for cell service funding set aside availability.

Old Business:

Arch asked about the wait list for Yreka behavioral health. Ray identified that there is a 42 person wait list. Two staff travel to Orleans and Happy Camp which works 1 day a week in Happy Camp or 1 day in Orleans. Ray noted the providers are at capacity so there needs to be additional providers.

The County is full as well, and they have some difficulties in hiring similar as anyone else. Scott asked if there is locum tenons for behavioral health. Ray wasn't sure. There is contracting services but it doesn't serve the patient fully, face-to-face is important. Contractors don't really embrace the clients similarly to those on the ground. Scott commented that clients or patients who are likely to be suicidal need services and those should be reported so they can have an adequate and quick complete assessment. Troy added that Native Americans do not like to communicate

and its last minute, so they need to get services offered sooner. Ray added that officer of the day is at the HHS program, they can come in confidentially and open door, and they can seek assistance. Ray noted that there needs to be services. Scott asked how the data is collected on who is providing services, etc. Binx suggested that a Karuk person can be a healer and then recognize that person as a true provider and receive billing. Being sovereign the Tribe should move to that. There needs to be the development as a volunteer group to provide services.

Troy asked how the application for the Elders Cook is going for Yreka. Binx updated that Buster and Binx had a conversation with staff regarding this. The program that is in Yreka is different. Rondi and Jodi believe they are going to use the same position description with some slight differences.

Director Reports:

1) Ray Elliot, Director of Human Services:

Ray had a meeting with the Yurok Tribe and submitted an email update to the Health Board on the outcome of that meeting. Adding that a women's transitional house would be an addition of a program and there is capacity issues in hiring people to operate this program. Troy advised that this is an ongoing project and there are services needed for women.

Ray provided pictures of the updates made to the men's transition house. Scott noted that Comstock has a zoned parcel that and could be purchased.

Ray announced that there was a client who did well and graduated from the facility so he likes to announce those achievements and celebrate them.

There is an extra \$263k from opioid funding. Ray will follow up with a budget and present it to the Tribal Council for final approval.

Arch asked about the resolution not having a budget and plan, etc. Erin advised that this is just accepting the funds at this time.

Ray noted that he is going to do spending on parenting classes as well. There is a youth group being developed, working toward prevention. An SUD group should be developed in November.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve Ray's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

2) Merris Obie, HRSA:

Not present, report provided. Jodi advised that there needs to be a budget justification approval. Eli noted that if the funding was spent then what happens to that other \$40k that was budgeted. It was understood that the funding would be returned and that needs further discussion.

Troy Hockaday moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve Merri's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

3) Cecelli Gonzalez, PHN:

Cecelli is present to review her report. She noted that she did a pilot project with DNR on food boxes and had the CHR's deliver them. They provided several items including traditional items. Cecelli noted that they were distributed in all areas.

She met with the TERO Director to discuss the Elders Care Program. This program provides funding to assist in obtaining elders caregivers. They want to both collaborate on how this program works or if they would like the PHN to take over the program. This is still being discussed at this time. Troy commented that in Happy Camp there are elders that are desperate for care 3-4 hours of care, etc.

The price that is being paid is below minimum wage and that is an issue. If there is a need they need to be signed up and receive additional resources. Emma Lee advised that the contractors are paid sort of low. Arch explained that Rondi and Jodi getting together and identify if this program can work differently or identify solutions for services should be done. Troy noted that he doesn't want the CHR's to do the work, but they can identify if a person needs a care person, there is a need and do a training for care taking etc.

Binx asked if the County will provide the assessment in addition to services. Emma Lee confirmed yes, that using them can work in conjunction together. Susanna commented that to be eligible to receive County support services you have to be on County Medicaid.

Cecilli then announced the November's 2024 diabetic conference. She would like this to be aimed toward Native American diabetics and culture based. She would like to have speakers and afternoon workshops, etc.

Arch commented that there needs to be diabetic teaching and education along with diet, exercise, etc. Rondi asked what keeps Arch from reaching out. He noted that it was time allowance. However, Arch asked that the people be pinged to request what to do, sort of reminders and follow up.

Cecelli commented that when she started working here she inherited the diabetic grant but now she is hoping to be able to do more. Arch would like to have talking circles to talk about what works for them, what doesn't, and come up with some resources.

Eli Hensher-Aubrey moved and Kristen King seconded to approve Cecelli's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

4) Nikki Hokanson, Deputy Director:

Nikki is present to review the dental program report. She and another staff member completed the Health Start kids' dental exams.

Scott asked if the pano machine was fixed and Nikki commented that it was fixed and is being used.

Scott Quinn moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Nikki's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

5) Tonia Begrin, Orleans Clinic Manager:

Not present, report provided.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve Tonia's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

6) Rondi Johnson, HHS CEO:

Rondi is present to review her report. She, Dion and Tasha attended a meeting to work on the TCCC grant, Reunion debrief, CRIHB, etc.

She thanked Melonie and staff for their work on homebound deliveries and food for the seniors. It is great to see the elders receive services.

Jennifer appreciates everyone getting the reports in on time this month, and making sure they are available for review. It was nice that everyone had them in on time.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Rondi's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

7) Susanna Greeno, Happy Camp Clinic Manager:

Susanna is present to review her report. She added that she was able to cover every position in the clinic minus the provider this passed year.

Kristen King thanked Susanna for getting her in so fast and it was a great timely experience.

Arch Super moved and Kristen King seconded to approve Susanna's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

8) Tonya Albers, RPMS Site Manager:

Tonya is present to review her report in Yreka. The numbers are lower from last year.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Tonya's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

9) Cindy Hayes, Yreka Clinic Manager:

Cindy is present to review her report in Yreka.

Troy Hockaday moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve Cindy's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

10) Dr. Vasquez, Medical Director:

Not present, report provided.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve Dr. Vasquez's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

11) Jodi Henderson, HRSA, Grants, Agreements:

Jodi is present to review her report. She commented that there are quite a few jobs out there and some have applicants waiting to transition.

Troy Hockaday moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve Jodi's report, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Jennifer updated that the Lead Social Worker has been hired and there is another staff member hired under her. Jodi noted that this is a Child Welfare Social Worker.

Closed Session:

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Kristen King seconded to uphold the denial and deny PRC Case #377, 3 haa, 0 puuhara, 3 pupitihara (Scott, Troy, Arch).

Informational: program data was provided on 2 belligerent patients, missed appointments and entitlement of missed appointments.

Informational: Update on the delinquent documents required from FTCA and the change in how items are uploaded. It will be resent and become compliant by Monday 10/14.

Informational: HRSA grant deadline for a letter of intent by 10/15 and full application approved and uploaded by 11/14.

Informational: Inquiries from the Tribal Council on provide recruitment contained outreach, advertisement, visitor introduction, outreach to schools, job fairs, etc.

Informational: Council asked for an update on the Yreka Senior Nutrition Program. There were site visits, office space needs, space needs and then it will be ready.

Informational: Council discussed staff needs and suggestions on how to proceed, included an update of the HRSA Manager providing on-boarding and assisting as necessary.

Informational: Council asked for an update on Elders positions that the Council is seeking. It was identified that draft positions were provided, but no feedback from the Tribal Council.

Troy Hockaday moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to provide \$300 for each community for Halloween candy, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy Hockaday moved and Eli Hensher-Aubrey seconded to approve totaling vehicle #190 and accepting the funding, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Council asked about the reports for quantity and quality of care provided at the clinics. It was reported that the lead LVN does this report and it needs to be submitted monthly to the Tribal Council.

Informational: Council approved updating the Health Board composition, but the vacancy is not posted on the website. This is required to be followed up on.

Informational: Council asked for follow up on the mandates set by HRSA at Indian Health Clinics. A mission statement was provided for review but does not include the requirement language or justification.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve PAN for employee #TB, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Pay increases for staff shall be approved within recommendations by CFO for identified staff.

Jennifer Goodwin moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve PAN for employee #KB, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Complaint from Tribal Member #AW regarding several inconsistencies, lack of communication, lack of consistency, and familiar understanding on items.

Informational: TANF consultant should be evaluated as an option to come in and assist.

Council Directive: to have Council Reps work with TANF staff to pin point the problems and enact an efficient and fiscally responsible plan to become compliant and consistent. 10/22 Virtual Allowed.

Informational: discussion on MOA and easements for Parcel B lands should be discussed further. Perhaps the development of a Tribal Consortium. Chairman and Vice-Chairman will have a call directly with Geneva Thompson regarding concerns from Federally Recognized Tribes and the options of land.

Informational: Employee #TB will contest charge on VISA prior to bringing request to the Tribal Council.

Troy Hockaday moved and Jennifer Goodwin seconded to approve insurance for haunted house in Orleans for one week, with waivers required, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Informational: Vice-Chairman recommends a Karuk Tribe hosted celebration where those who worked on dam removal are allowed to speak and be honored. To celebrate the generations who worked on dam removal.

Council Consensus: Council Directive that the Senior Center in Yreka should be up and running by the end of November.

Arch Super moved and Troy Hockaday seconded to approve the Orleans /Somes Bar Community Wildfire Plan and Happy Camp Fire Plan, 6 haa, 0 puuhara, 0 pupitihara.

Troy Hockaday: wants the same color. 2 for black (Arch/Kristen), Tan3 tan (Jennifer, Scott, Eli). Troy voted no on either option.

Troy Hockaday moved and Kristen King seconded to approve 24-R-168, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Arch).

Troy Hockaday moved and Scott Quinn seconded to approve resolution 24-R-174, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Arch).

Troy Hockaday moved and Kristen King seconded to rescind contract 24-C-121 and approve agreement 24-A-001, 5 haa, 0 puuhara, 1 pupitihara (Arch).

Next Meeting: November 7, 2024 at 10am in Happy Camp.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth "Binx" Brink, Vice-Chairman

Recording Secretary, Barbara Snider